Telecommunications Tariff in Rural Areas

3972. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNCATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether th telecommunications tariff in rural areas duffer from that in urban areas; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, in respect of call charges from Long distance public Telephones.

(b) These tariffs have been kept low with a view to encourage the use of telephone in the rural sector.

Inclusions in the SCs/STs Lists

3973. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN.
SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:
DR. LAL BRHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have received some proposals from various State Governments for inclusion of some castes in SCs/STs lists;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received in this regard;and

(c) the time by which the action is proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details car not be disclosed in Public interest.

(c) No specific time Schedule can be indicated at this stage.

[*Translation*]

3974. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified and yet to be be electrified in Gujarat, districtwise;

(b) the places in these districts where Kuteer Jyoti Yojana has been implemented; and

(c) the names of the villages in the above districts,where Kuteer Jyoti Yojana is to be implemented in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURECES(SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) A statement indicating the districtwise number of electrified villages in Gujarat is enclosed. The Gujarat State Electricity Board has declared the State as cent per cent electrified.

(b) and (c). Under the 'Kuteer Jyoti Scheme' which was financed by the Central grant during 1988-89 and 1989-90, the task of identifying the beneficiaries was left to the state Govt concerned. So far as Gujarat is concerned, the State Electricity Board has exceeded the target of releasing 21,540 single-point light connections under the scheme spread all over the State. The said scheme has not been continued after 31-3-1991.